Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris
Performance on 42nd
presents

Sussan Deyhim

December 10, 1998

42
PERFORMANCE ON FORTY SECOND

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Vocodeliks II

An electronic vocal piece conceived, composed, and performed by Sussan Deyhim.

Electronic processing: Richard Horowitz & Sussan Deyhi
Live sound: James Nichols

Sussan Deyhim, one of the featured performers in Shi Neshat's video installation *Turbulent*, performs a spec concert to accompany this exhibition, on view at t Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris throu January 15, 1999.

Special thanks to Afsaneh Bassirpour, Victoria Faust, Ig Gozsa, Richard Horowitz, Sound Lab, Bill Laswell, Man Mirdamad, Shirin Neshat, James Nichols, Tim Nye, Patri O'Rourke, Pamela Page, Janet Rienstra, Tim Walsh, a Behnam Wateghi.

Program is subject to change. No unauthorized photography, audio-, or videotaping is permitted.

BIOGRAPHY

Sussan Deyhim, a Kurdish-Iranian performance artist, vocalist, and composer, is known for her hypnotic live vocals that are layered against complex electronic backgrounds of rhythmic patterns and percussive effects. Born in Teheran, Deyhim began her creative work as a ballet and folk dancer with Iran's Pars National Ballet. In 1976, she received a scholarship to Mudra Maurice Béjart's School of the Performing Arts in Brussels and subsequently toured internationally as a member of Béjart's Ballet of the 20th Century. Deyhim has also studied Persian folk and classical music as well as classical Western vocal techniques. She has complemented this formal training with her extensive independent study of indigenous vocal traditions of Africa and the Middle East, particularly those relating to sacred trance music. Her highly personal style fuses these varied musical forms with elaborate digital processes to generate richly textured sound environments.

Since 1980, Deyhim has been based in New York, while performing and recording internationally in a range of solo and collaborative projects. Besides her longtime collaboration with composer Richard Horowitz, Deyhim has performed or recorded with Bill Laswell, Bobby McFerrin, Adrian Sherwood, Jah Wobble, Branford Marsalis, Jaron Lamier, Hal Wilner, Doug Wimbish, Will Calhoun, Blue Man Group, and the Loop Guru, among others. Her recordings with Richard Horowitz include *Majoun* (Sony Classical) and *Azax/Attra-Desert Equations* (Crammed Discs). She is also a featured vocalist in many other projects such as *The Gift of Love* (Rasa/TommyBoy), a CD of Deepak Chopra's translations of Rumi's poetry; *Sahara Blue*, produced by Hector Zazou; *Sussantics*, in collaboration with the Loop Guru; and *Sacred System*, produced by Bill Laswell. In addition, her voice can be heard on the soundtracks of *The Last Temptation of Christ*, *The Beloved*, and *Three Seasons*. Currently in production is a solo CD, *Maze*, produced by Bill Laswell as well as an album of Persian Sufi poetry and music, to be released in May 1999 on Crammed Discs. Her next performance is on December 22 at The Bowery Ballroom in Manhattan, with her band Majoun, which includes Richard Horowitz and the drum and bass groove-masters, Doug Wimbish and Will Calhoun.

Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris
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UPCOMING EVENTS: *Performance on 42nd* will continue this spring with a four-part series titled *Impulsive Behavior,* focusing on interdisciplinary projects in which improvisation plays a central role. (March 25-May 13, 1999)

Performance on 42nd is a program of the Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, offering free music, dance, and theater performances to the public.

Production Staff

Elizabeth Chaney *Lighting Designer*
James Lo *Sound Engineer*
Kenyatta Hills *Production Assistant*
Paula Court *Photographer*
Character Generators Inc. *Video Documentation*

Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris Staff

Eugenie Tsai *Senior Curator and Curator of Branches*
Debra Singer *Manager and Producer,* Performance on 42nd
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42
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